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NATIONAL BUREAU OF STANDARDS REPORT

NBS PROJECT 0201-30-2303 0201-30-2328

July 1, 1954

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NBS REPORT

IMPROVEMENT OF VISUAL AIDS FOR AIR NAVIGATION

March 1, 1954 to June 30, 1954

Prepared by F. C. Breckenridge

Sponsored by
Airways Engineering Division
Civil Aeronautics Administration



U. S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE NATIONAL BUREAU OF STANDARDS

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1. OBJECTIVES

It is the purpose of this project to carry on research and testing, develop specialized equipment and provide technical services for the Airways Engineering Division of the Office of Federal Airways, Civil Aeronautics Administration.

2. TESTING

At the beginning of the period covered by this report, there were two tests in progress. These have been completed and reported. During the report period six additional tests have been requested. Five of these have been carried thru and reported. Detailed dates and costs for each test are given in the financial summary.

3. RESEARCH ACTIVITIES

3.1 Study of exposure characteristics of metal protective paints.

The accelerated exposures of the 28 paint specimens have been completed and a report on this part of the project has been started. It is anticipated that the results will be found sufficiently definite to warrant the discontinuance of this part of the test. The natural exposures should be continued for the coming fiscal year but this will entail little expense except for a report at the close of the year.

3.2 Study of green plastics for beacon covers.

The results of the measurements made in the previous period have been computed and analyzed and diagrams have been prepared to show how the signal colors produced by the plastics with light sources of different color temperatures compare with the specification tolerances. The final report on this project is nearing completion.

3.3 Study of optical system for traffic control projectors.

Buring the previous period candlepower distribution measurements were made for a considerable number of lamp, reflector, and lens combinations. This material was organized into a report covering the characteristics of the projector originally submitted for test, possible modifications of that projector to improve its performance, and the alternative of a design using a very light weight plastic lens. The work was then discontinued because developments within the C.A.A. made it impossible to utilize the results in the foreseeable future.

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3.4 Standardization of signal-light colors.

Diagrams were prepared to illustrate the text of Part 1 of the proposed standard for signal light colors and a conference arranged with representatives of the Kopp Glass Co. and the Corning Glass Works. Some criticisms were offered to the text but they were of a tentative sort and need not preclude the use of this draft for wider circulation. The diagrams proved inadequate and new diagrams are in process of preparation. This is a joint project with the Bureau of Aeronautics, that bureau carrying the major part of the cost.

3.5 Technical services.

This item includes correspondence, conferences, administrative reports and other general activities incident to the conduct of the project. The costs for this period include the expenses involved in preparing the progress report for the previous period.

A LOCAL TRANSPORT CALL

Financial Summary, March 1, 1954 to June 30, 1954 C.A.A. Fund 13341330.001 N.B.S. Project 0201-30-2328 Balance 2-28-54 (see last report) \$1.626 Supplementary transfer 600 Funds available for period \$2226 Cost of tests Date of Request Bate of Report Current Costs Test No. General testing 3-31-54 G15248 \$39. Two fused rubber-covered connectors, tested electrically and mecanically for conformity to specifications and suitability for intended service. G15259 3-23-54 4-13-54 70. Radio antenna housing, measured for loss tangent. G15426 4-12-54 4-21-54 35. Paint, tested for conformity to specifications. 5-12-54 1.27.50 G15505 5-7-54 Three portable A-C and D-C thermal voltmeters calibrated. Project Tests 3-12-54 155.

21A-10-53 11-16-53

15 portable approach-light photometers calibrated, furnished with calibration charts, and shipped.

Research Activities

Study of exposure characteristics of metal pro-tective paints. \$550. Study of green plastics for beacon covers. Study of optical system for traffic control 310. 216. projectors. Standardisation of specifications for signal colors, 198:13 Technical services.

\$2350.63

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Financial Summary, March 1, 1954 to June 30, 1954

C.A.A. Fund 13x1305.001 N.B.S. Project 0201-30-2303

Balance 2-28-54 (See last report)

112659

Cost of Tests

Date of Request Date of Report Current Costs Test No. 2231. 6-25-54 5-26-54 21A-6/54 Radar irradiator, filter transmittance measured in visible and ultra-violet regions, the conditions of use surveyed, and a solution for central tower difficulties proposed.

21A-7/54

6-18-54

Incomplete 80.

Two 100PAR-56 lamps measured for candlepower distribution.

Research Activities

Standardization of specifications for signal colors

90.

Technical Services

150.

Total for period

\$551.

Balance available 7-1-54 \$2108.

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